



Queen Mary's Grammar School

Academic in purpose - Generous in approach - Enterprising in spirit - International in outlook



**QMGs new Year 7 parents'
information presentation**
September 2021



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Running order

Mr Richard Langton (Headmaster)

Welcome and introductions; The QM experience; Engaging with the USPs; The Lift Fund; Our core values

Mr Magee (Head of Year 7) and Mr Sepede (Assistant Head of Year)

Life in Year 7; Pastoral care; Developing the whole person; How can you help and support the school? Welcoming the form tutors

Meeting the SLT

Mr Collins (Safeguarding and welfare), Mr Brown (Behaviour), Mrs Youngman (SEND and Pupil Premium)

Queen Mary's Association

What is the QMA?

Getting involved with the QMA

Events in 2021-22



QMGs new Year 7 parents' information presentation

September 2021



The QM experience

The 4 pillars:

**Academic in
Purpose**

**International in
Outlook**

Enterprising in Spirit

**Generous in
Approach**



Queen Mary's Grammar School

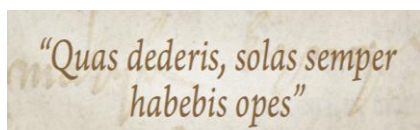
Curriculum Policy

Approved by the LGB, February 2021 (updated May 2021)

Principles:

Queen Mary's Grammar School believes that the Quality of Education experienced by students is driven by a curriculum in its broadest sense: the entirety of a student's learning experience, in lessons and beyond. We aim to design and embed a curriculum that is planned and sequenced to develop in our highly academic students the knowledge and skills necessary for their future roles in society, while ensuring that the balanced curriculum offer is accessible to all.

The curriculum will promote the spiritual, moral, social, physical and cultural (SMSC) development of pupils, fostering a sense of identity and place within the broad range of cultural contexts represented by members of our community. It will encourage pupil engagement in a wide range of co-curricular and enrichment opportunities and the broadening of subject-specific knowledge and skills beyond the classroom and into the wider community, nationally and internationally (See Appendix 2).



**Recognising our past
Re-engaging with the USPs
Part of a community
Developing leaders**

**Striving for excellence in all we do
Taking co-curricular opportunities**



QMGs new Year 7 parents' information presentation September 2021



Engaging with the USPs

Farchynys

Farchynys, the school's Welsh Centre, is located on the stunning Maudslayi Estate in southern Snowdonia with views over to Cadair Idris. Purchased for the school in 1963 it has been a centre for adventure and learning in a contrasting setting for the past 50 years.

The centre provides basic self-catering accommodation for up to 24 pupils and accompanying staff in dormitory accommodation, together with classroom and dining room facilities. The school also owns 10 acres of the adjoining headland including its own access onto the estuary.



All year 7 pupils visit Farchynys in the summer of their first year in a series of trips with other members of their form group. These 'Learning to Learn' weeks form an end to the year when pupils learn about learning in other contexts and about working with each other. Typical activities include visits to Harlech Castle, a local slate mine, the Centre for Alternative Technology and creating their own metal one evening.



Combined Cadet Force



The Combined Cadet Force continues to gain in popularity at the school with well over 300 cadets, representing almost half of the school community. The contingent consists of Army and RAF sections of roughly equal size and is one of more than 200 such contingents based in schools throughout the country.

Membership of the contingent is entirely voluntary, with pupils choosing to join when they enter year 9. We also offer a fast-track scheme for new entrants to the sixth-form. Our best cadets are invited to continue their membership whilst in the sixth-form to act as cadet NCOs and undertake the majority of the instruction of other cadets.

The Combined Cadet Force is a youth organisation which is sponsored by the Ministry of Defence. Its purpose is summarised by the CCF charter, but in essence is about developing our pupils to be full citizens in the future.



CO-CURRICULAR MAPPING



QMGs new Year 7 parents' information presentation September 2021



Regular donations through the Lift Fund

To Parents of Year 7

July 2021

Dear Parents

THE LIFT FUND

I understand that your son's first year of secondary education has been severely disrupted due to Coronavirus but hopefully, he has begun to settle back into the routines of the School day. It is important to us that by the end of his time at Queen Mary's we will have equipped him with the tools to face the future with confidence, including a strong academic portfolio. We have found, though, that it is not just exam results but also life experiences that shape young lives and opens doors. This is what sets us apart and makes our school such a rewarding place to work and study.

The School has many fine traditions dating back almost 470 years, including the embodiment of our School motto, *Quas dederis, solar semper habebis opes* which translates as 'It is what you give that you will keep as eternal riches'. Our hope is that you will consider 'giving' to the School's Lift Fund to help us to help your child, and others, as he matures.

Over the past year we have, like all schools, faced challenges in relation to the Coronavirus restrictions and our fundraising activities have been put on hold. Last year, I did not ask for any donations from parents as I understood that these were difficult times for many. I am hoping that we will be able to resume these as soon as possible and ask that you will seriously consider making a regular payment to the School Lift Fund. We are grateful for a regular contribution as it enables us to plan the best ways in which to support our young people. Donations made to the Fund, have enabled us to sustain the wide range of enrichment activities at the school, including contributing to the continued upkeep and maintenance of Farchynys, our Welsh field centre. Alternatively, if you would prefer you can make a one-off cash payment via your child, in a sealed and named envelope, marked LIFT FUND which should be given to the Form Tutor on the first day of Term.

I am very grateful for the support given to the school from parents. This enables us to provide extra opportunities that are not supported by Government grants. If you have any questions about the fund please contact Mrs McCoy at alumni@qmg.walsall.sch.uk. I have linked details of how to set up a [standing order](#) to the donations account and a [Gift Aid declaration](#) which, if you are a UK taxpayer, will allow us to claim an additional 25% on top of your donations.

I hope that you will join me in supporting the Lift Fund. Thank you.



QMGS new Year 7 parents' information presentation
September 2021



Our core values

Courage – facing new challenges with determination & resilience

Respect – for yourself & tolerance of others

Equality – recognising & celebrating diversity

Discipline – developing personal responsibility

Integrity – to be honest, sincere, reliable & selfless

Teamwork – stronger together

High challenge, high support pastoral approach

Year 7 Leadership



- Mr Magee
- Head of Year 7
- Teacher of Biology
- Member of staff for 7 years



- Mr Sepede
- Assistant Head of Year 7
- Teacher of Physics
- Member of staff for 8 years

A typical school day



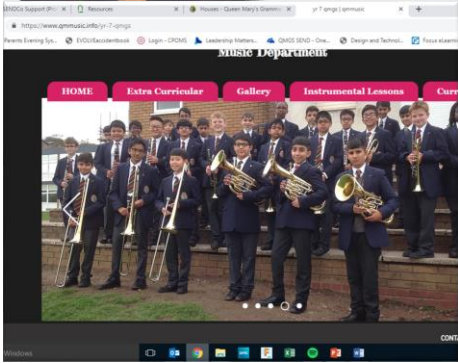
Registration	08.45
Assembly/Form period	08.55-09.15
Period 1	09.15-10.05
Period 2	10.05-10.55
Break	10.55-11.20
Period 3	11.20-12.10
Period 4	12.10-13.00
Lunch	13.00-14.00
Period 5 (incl. reg.)	14.00-14.50
Period 6	14.50-15.40
Dismissal	15.40



Year 7 Activities and Events

• Year 7 are encouraged to use the long lunch breaks to have lunch and then attend a club or society.

- Chess
- Hockey
- Basketball
- Design and Technology Enrichment
- Board Game club
- Library
- What if club
- History Society
- Maths club
- Science Club
- Wellbeing group
 - Lots more as the term continues





Rewards and Sanctions

QMGS Community Award 2016/2017

Bronze Award

Record Card

Item	Yes	No
1. Attends school regularly		
2. Attends school regularly		
3. Attends school regularly		
4. Attends school regularly		
5. Attends school regularly		
6. Attends school regularly		
7. Attends school regularly		
8. Attends school regularly		
9. Attends school regularly		
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23. Attends school regularly		
24. Attends school regularly		
25. Attends school regularly		

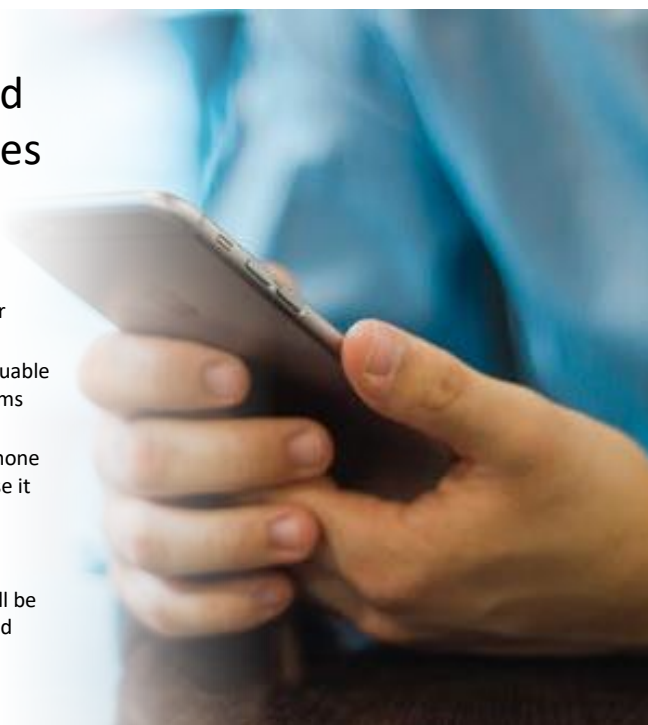
Stage 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Form tutor informed Stage 1 letter sent to parents by HOY After school detention issued by Mrs M Hayden/HOY Student placed on a 1 week Form tutor report
Stage 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stage 2 letter sent to parents by HOY After school detention issued by Mrs M Hayden/HOY Student placed on a 2-week HOY report Removal of privileges and other sanctions in line with performance whilst on HOY report.
Stage 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stage 3 letter sent to parents by Mr T Brown Saturday Detention issued by Mr T Brown Student placed on a 2 week SLT report Parents contacted to discuss concerns
Stage 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents to be called in for a meeting with HOY and Mr T Brown Saturday Detention issued by Mr T Brown Behaviour support strategies to be identified and implemented
Stage 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents to be informed by Mr T Brown Meeting with HOY, Mr T Brown and Headmaster Behaviour contractor to be established

Behaviour

- Support the school where you can – a behaviour point is not the end of the world. Instead, it's a prompt for action
- Sometimes your child will disagree with the School's perspective
- I want every student in my year to be happy, but bad days can happen and are natural

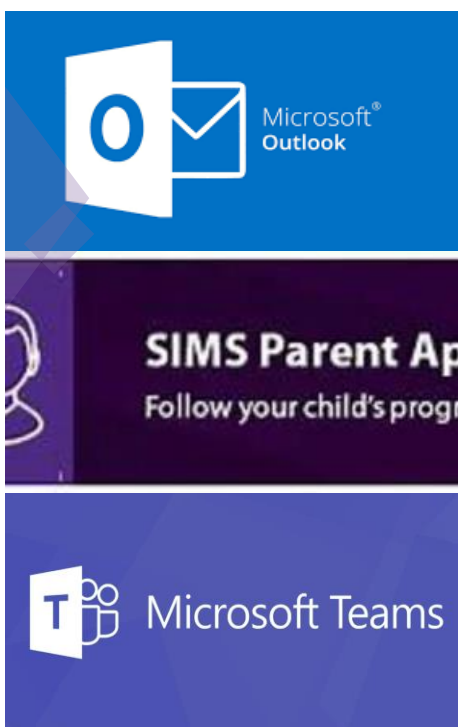
Phones and other devices

- MS Teams is now an important part of our school life
- A phone can be a valuable tool in accessing Teams but is not required
- Pupils may bring a phone to school, and can use it with a teacher's permission in class
- It is however their responsibility and will be confiscated if misused



Social Media

- Year 7 are not old enough to use most social media sites according to the terms and conditions – this includes gaming platforms
- The School cannot take responsibility for managing social media use
- Improper use can, and will, lead to sanctions



Progress



- Attainment Grades and Attitude to Learning Grades are sent home termly
- Parents' Evening for Year 7 occurs in March
- Parent App is now in use
- Homework is set via MS Teams
- Weekly emails will be sent to provide an update on homework assignments

How can you as parents help?



During the first term....

- Help them get into good habits early
- Help your son get organised (don't do it for him)
- Help them manage their time
- Encourage them to get involved in extra curricular activities, clubs and societies
- If things go wrong, get them to take responsibility and ask for help if they can
- Keep up to date with the QMGS community by looking at the school website, www.qmgs.org and downloading the calendar, and signing up to the Twitter feed (@qmgs1554)
- Let them do it themselves where possible
- This is a transition for you as well! Please support the school where possible



QMGs new Year 7 parents' information presentation September 2021



Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (Mrs Youngman)

The SEND Team is based in the Welfare Hub with the SEMH team.

Mrs Youngman – SENDCo
Mrs Swain – Ass. SENDCo
Mrs Dooley – LSA
Miss Mierczynska – LSA

A pupil may come under the umbrella of support from the SEND team if they have difficulties in any of the following areas...

Communication and Interaction	Cognition and Learning	Social, emotional and mental health difficulties	Sensory and/or physical needs
ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder)	Dyspraxia (co-ordination)	Anxiety	Hearing Impairment
Speech and Language	Dyscalculia	Bipolar disorder	Visual Impairment
Receptive Skills	Dyslexia	Depression	Multi-sensory impairment
	Dysgraphia (writing)	Attachment Disorders	Physical Impairment due to illness
	Literacy and numeracy difficulties	OCD	Hyperflexibility/Hypermobility
	Memory Problems	ADHD/ADD (Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder)	
		Withdrawn/disruptive behaviour	

At Queen Mary's our vision is that
"SEND students and families at QMGs know they are accepted, included, understood and supported."



QMGs new Year 7 parents' information presentation September 2021



Pupil Premium & Free school meals (Mrs Youngman)

Our aim is for all pupils to reach their potential and participate fully as valued members of our community irrespective of background or family circumstance

PARENTS & STUDENTS	NEWS	ALUMNI	VACANCIES
Parent & Student resources			
Letters for Parents			
Pupil Premium/6th Bursary			
Food/Catering/Free School Meals			
ParentMail			
School Uniform & Sportswear			

If you believe your child is eligible for FSM, you apply via the link (on our website) for Free School Meals to Walsall Borough Council.

Applications can be made online or by downloading the application form and returning it to the Free School Meals Department at Walsall Council.

It is important that this is done regardless of whether the pupil has been receiving Free School Meals in their Primary School as this information does not transfer automatically to Queen Mary's Grammar School when the pupil joins us.

For more information, please see below:

Frequently Asked Questions.

FSM Schools Leaflet

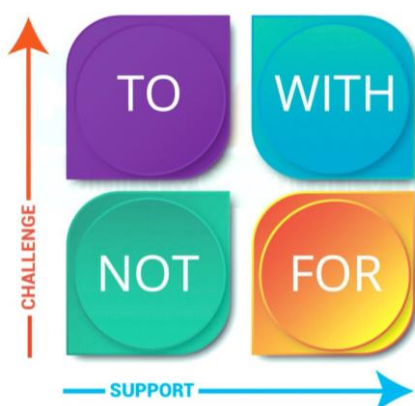


QMGS new Year 7 parents' information presentation September 2021



Student behaviour (Mr Brown)

High challenge, high support model for changing behaviour.
Focussing on the small, seemingly insignificant things that lead to our outcomes.



Atomic Habits

Uniform, Attendance, Punctuality,
Equipment, Participation, Meeting
Deadlines, Courtesy, Cooperation,
Consideration

Staff with Key Safeguarding responsibilities

- | | |
|---|------------------------|
| • Headmaster: | Richard Langton |
| • Designated Safeguarding Lead/SPOC/Designated LAC: | Graham Collins |
| • Safeguarding and Welfare Officer: | Tom Farnell |
| • Deputy DSLs: | Tom Farnell, Tim Brown |
| • SEMH: | Shantelle Hendricks |
| • 6 th form welfare: | Rachael Weston |

Also:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| • E-Safety: | Fran Round |
| • Safer Recruitment/SCR: | Simran Sahota |
| • Chair of governors: | Lee Roberts |
| • Safeguarding link governor: | James Picken |

Safeguarding and welfare (Mr Collins)

Support Mechanisms at QMGS

- Welfare Hub
- Peer – Peer Support
- Prefects
- Pastoral system (Heads of Year, Assistant Heads of Year, Form Tutors)
- Supportive staff

Safeguarding and welfare (Mr Collins)

Queen Mary's Schools

Summer Ball 2019

With Live Music From
The Core Band

Saturday, 29th June
6.45pm

Queen Mary's Association

Tweets 8,330 Following 857 Followers 324 Likes 2,168 Lists 18

QMA
@qmg1554qma
The Parent and Teacher Association of @qmg1554. We raise funds for the school and have some fun doing it! Please tweet or email qma@qmg1554sch.uk

easyfundraising
feel good shopping

TASTE OF THE WORLD

Saturday, December 7th 2019, 6-9pm at QMGS

Feast of Diversity
Bhangra Mexican Filipino South Indian African American Punjabi

Bhangra Dancing and Dhol performance from 'The Lions of Punjab' (6.15pm)
Open mic talent competition
MEP Mandarin performances (8pm)
Fireworks (8.45pm)
And more...

Celebrating the Flavours and Diversity of QMGS

Tickets can be bought at the QMGS reception with prices as follows:
Under 10s and QMGS students - £5 Adults - £15 Family (2 adults + 2 children) - £35

Price includes entry, entertainment and food from each of the stalls (South and North Indian, Mexican, Philippine)
There will also be a licensed bar. Desserts available for an additional fee.



QMGs new Year 7 parents' information presentation September 2021



Queen Mary's Association (QMA)

We are very much looking forward to the return of events run by the QMA. The QMA have played a crucial part in school fundraising over a long period of time. In recent years, monies raised from the events have gone towards the outdoor cricket nets/covers and the blue minibus. The previous two events (in 2019-20) raised money for a refurbishment of the library and tablets for the Geography Department, which we will be investing this year.

The provisional dates for events in 2021-22 are:

Sat 4 Dec 2021	Tastes of the World
Sat 22 Jan 2022	Burns Night
Sat 25 Jun 2022	Summer Ball

Please fill in the
interest forms!



Website: www.qmgs.org

Email: enquiries@qmgs.walsall.sch.uk

Twitter: qmgs1554

Keep in touch!

